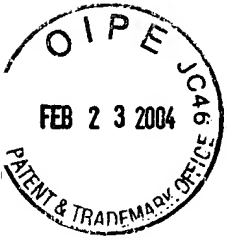


Docket No.: 2653/52



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : THORSON et al.
SERIAL NO. : 09/993,757
FILED : November 27, 2001
FOR : **MOLECULAR BREAK LIGHTS PROBES FOR
DETECTING NUCLEOTIDE CLEAVAGE**
EXAMINER: Wilder, C.
GROUP ART UNIT : 1637

RECEIVED

FEB 27 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 20, 2004.

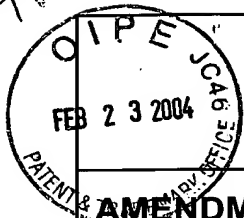
By: Joseph A. Coppola
Joseph A. Coppola (Reg. No. 38,413)

AMENDMENT

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated August 20, 2003, please consider the following amendments and remarks. Submitted herewith is a Petition for the Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a).

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



**AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL
LETTER AND REQUEST FOR
EXTENSION OF TIME PURSUANT TO
37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)**

Docket Number
2653/52

RECEIVED

FEB 27 2004

Application Number
09/993,757

Filing Date
November 27, 2001

Examiner
Cynthia B. Wilder

Art Unit
1637

Confirmation No.
7539

Invention Title
**MOLECULAR BREAK LIGHTS PROBES
FOR DETECTING NUCLEOTIDE
CLEAVAGE**

Inventor(s)
THORSON, et al.

Address to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope
addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-
1450 on February 20, 2004

By:

Joseph A. Coppola
Joseph A. Coppola (Reg. No. 38,413)

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for entry in the above-identified application is the following:

1. Amendment in response to the August 20, 2003 Office Action.

Applicants respectfully requests a three-month extension of time in which to respond to the August 20, 2003 Office Action, for which a response period expiring on November 20, 2003 was set. The extended period expires on February 20, 2004. Please charge the **\$475.00** extension fee to the deposit account of **Kenyon & Kenyon**, deposit account number **11-0600**. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to the deposit account of **Kenyon & Kenyon**, deposit account number **11-0600**.

A copy of this letter is enclosed.

Dated: February 20, 2004

By:

Joseph A. Coppola
Joseph A. Coppola (Reg. No. 38,413)

KENYON & KENYON

One Broadway
New York, New York 10004
(212) 425-7200 (telephone)
(212) 425-5288 (facsimile)
CUSTOMER NO. 26646

02/26/2004 WABRHAM1 00000087 110600 09993757

01 FC:2253 475.00 DA